

Descriptive study on Gibran Khalil Gibrans' Point of view about Religion and Religious Thought

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Abstract

Gibran Khalil Gibran was born in Christian family in Lebanon..His mother was a virtuous woman who could familiar him with religious principle from childhood .After some years ,he went to the west. He spent the best of his life time there. He made himself a great author and poet by his interest and talent in literature. The comparison between culture of west and south in Gibrans' mind caused a great change in his life .Although, Niches' thought had great effect on him and he acted independent on religious in world analysis and had been called infidel, we cant ignore his holy life and affection song which replaced by rebellious and also some of his mystically educations which gave for human who drowned in material things. In this paper, the researchers tried to investigate different part of Gibrans' character and his belief about Islam , the Jews and Christ, so the method which applied by researchers was descriptive.

Key words: Gibran Khalil Gibran, Christ, the Jews, Islam .

Gibran Khalil Gibran (1883-1931) is Lebanon/Syria's greatest poet, and one of the world's most popular poets of all times, ranking only behind Shakespeare and Lao-tsu. Gibran's *The Prophet* sold 9 million copies in the United States, tens of millions across the globe. Gibran was a literary contradiction. Stylistically he echoed Walt Whitman's freewheeling defiance of convention. Thematically, *The Prophet* is spiritual self-help that celebrates conventional thinking, a genre the likes of Steven Covey and Deepak Chopra have put to immense profit, primarily to themselves, but at great debt to Gibran.(PierreTristam, 2013).

Gibran Khalil Gibran was born in Boshra where is in the north of Lebanon in 6th January of 1883.His father(Khalil son of Mikhaeil who son of saad) was grandchild of Yusef Gibran Maruni Shabalani who is originally from Damascus (Susan Shirazi, *Gnosticism in Gibran 'thought*, page 18).His mother was smart ,patient and virtuous. The country where Jabran grew up and spent his childhood was very beautiful .He was interested in painting, so little by little, he was painting instead of attention to teacher in the class. Since he was seven years old, painting was as an entertainment for him .Gibrans 'life has faced with sever crisis in 1895 that he had to emigrate to America with his family.

Gibran had left Lebanon with his family for living to America in 1895 and they lived in Boston in a place where Chinese lived there. He had registered in public school in which education was free .His talent and skill were very great that could attract his teachers' attention.

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1.2. Return to Lebanon

Gibran returned to Lebanon after learning painting and English language in Amer in 1898. He registered in (Alhekmah) school in primary education years. Jabran had learnt in Alhekmah school by Yusef Hadad and studied Islamic and Arabic books.

1.3. Contradiction in Gibran's idea:

Gibran Khalil Gibran expressed his attitude about creator's existence in his literary works by beautiful verbal words and executive style.

He has mentioned his idea by using symbolic and magical way. To meet the aim, he had tendency for philosophy and he got much effects on Nicheh, romanticism, mystical and transmission. In special part of his life because of some reasons such as the lack of concise and scientific study, compounding rational with affection, referring to religious school, different Gnosticism and sometimes contradiction schools, Gibran involved in self-contradiction. Gibran's Christ was great different from Gospels' Christ. His Christ was same as other men: like Gibran is a poet and he is the man of affection and dreams. He didn't know any difference among benefit, evil, belief and infidelity. Gibran was mocking religious belief and he didn't see any difference between infidelity and religion. But he has mentioned complicated and opposite words in another world, sometimes followed by metempsychosis and sometimes it was same as religious.

1.4. Effective factors in Gibran's religious tendency

Gibran's thought had been great changing, so most of his beliefs which presented in his literary works didn't come from Christian religion but also he used religions, holy books and mystical works from many characters in west and east so that sometimes he extracted from Christian dominant, for example, he had belief to metempsychosis in souls' belief while metempsychosis in Christian was heresy. So Gibran's acquaintance was from different places. He gave metempsychosis from Indians. He appreciated transmission and William Blake and its Gnostics votes attracted his attention. In one period of his life, he had great effect on Nicheh. He used great resource of holy books.

1.5. Christian

Gibran was familiar with Christian and its initial principles from his childhood and Christ and Christian had such effect on him that his painting and literature were clear in his works some years later. Holy book was his partner from childhood and he loved it so much and studied it frequently. Therefore, it is obvious in some of his book particularly in (Yasuh son of Esnan) that he presented Yasuh.

1.6. Islam

Although Gibran was Christian, he had internal tendency to Islam.

In Gibran's works, there are points that present extensive information about great philosophers in Islam. Khalil Havi verified that Gibran expressed about two hundred narrations from Islam messenger in one of his notes and it means that he studied Quran and some of Islamic books. (Rabieh abi Fazel, Alfekr Aldini fel Adab Almahjari, part 2, page 542).

1.7. Romanticism and west culture

When Gibran and his family settled in Boston and he learnt English language perfectly, he could take some information about romantic authors and observe them, so he was attracted by metaphysics that belonged to romantic poet (Rymond Ghabeen, Alnazatah alroohiyateh fel Adab Gibran and Naeemah, page 28). He wrote some of his works in English language and by using Romantic style such as (Almajnoon, Alsabegh and Albanni). Following on Romantic style by Gibran shows that west culture had deep impact on his soul and body so that some west scientists prevail over his soul such as Nicheh who had great impact on his belief especially about religion. Gibran studied many works which were belong to European authors and Romantic poets.

2. Results and Discussion

As a result, it was clear that Gibran lived in what situation:

2.1 Definition for religion from Gibrans' point of view:

Gibran wanted religion which was recalling to affection ,love and freedom not religion that its fans are bigoted and cause to divided people into different groups ,so there would be conflict among them. Also ,he wanted religion that refer to pure Christian educations, so deviated Christian didn't have any value for Jabran. The definition that Gibran presented for religion had important features and members ,so in this part , some of them have mentioned:

2.2 Unity of Religion:

Gibran believed to religions' Unity which is one of the effective factor in nations.

2.3.Freedom in religion:

Gibran believed that souls' bird should be free and shouldn't tied to ethnic principle and philosophy because freedom song couldn't be out of rods 'cage.

Gibran said that instead of going to different religious' branch , you should admire beauty religion, so he wanted to enter religion into soul and nature.

2.4. Religion is unseparated part of life:

Gibrans' point of view was that religion is a part of life and religion and life couldn't be separated from each other. He believed that all of humans' work and thoughts are as a part of their religion.

2.5.Gibrans'idea about religions:

In this part, there would be discussion about Gibrans' ideas about Christian ,Islam and the Jews. Gibran lived in Boston, Newyork and Paris, so he wasn't away from the Jews and it is clear that he had special though about the Jews and religion. On the other hand , he had joined life with Lebanonian and Christian and Muslims lived together and Gibran always liked to exist good relationship between his coreligionist and Muslims .He was born in Christian family and he knew many things about Christ from his childhood.

2.6.Christian:

Gibran had many connection to Christian from his childhood and many researchers attempted to relate his belief to his original Christian .So ,he was Christian person who familiar with Christian from his primary life but sometimes he acted extremely , for example, he told God growing up clearly .On the other hand , he accepted metempsychosis that accounted as heresy in Christ religion.

2.7. The Jews:

Gibran discussed a little about the Jews. He has mentioned the Jews in his book (Yasuh the son of Al Ensan) and explained about his idea indirectly .

Gibran didn't know himself as a Jewish because he said in his book that they are bigoted people, but he didn't agree with bigoted person .Yasuh was the ideal character for him and he wanted to have such features like him.

2.8.Islam and Muslims:

Gibran had special attention to Muslims because many of his fellow-countrymen were Arab Muslims .Gibran drawing prophet by his pen and published in (Alsaleh) magazine. He also admired Imam Ali. He saw great Islam prophet in respectful view and said I am Christian and I am proud of it But I am in love with Islam prophet and have great worth for his name .He interested in Islam and said that I am scared to its destruction. (Entovan Ghaval, published collection of Gibran).

3. Conclusion

Gibran pointed that human religion is in his heart. He rejected religions 'outward ,so real religion is located in human heart not among people

Gibran believed to eternity completely ,so nobody can express this claim unless he has complete belief to God and eternal life .For this reason ,Jabran talked about life in hopeful view and he didn't see it as an end of human existence .He believed that human soul enter to another body after death(soul metempsychosis).

Emigrants maybe were important group of Arab contemporary authors who extended negligence religion. In this regard Gibran Khalil Gibran and Amin Alreihani were first emigrants who Talked about religion and religion of men clearly.

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